

REFERENCE TITLE: **birth defects; folic acid supplements**

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Forty-eighth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2008

## **HB 2521**

Introduced by  
Representatives Barto: Burges, Murphy, Stump, Tobin

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 36-133 AND 36-699, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO  
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:  
2       Section 1. Section 36-133, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4           36-133. Chronic disease surveillance system: confidentiality:  
5           immunity: violation: classification

6       A. A central statewide chronic disease surveillance system is  
7 established in the department. Diseases in the surveillance system shall  
8 include cancer, birth defects and other chronic diseases required by the  
9 director to be reported to the department.

10      B. The department, in establishing the surveillance system, shall:

- 11       1. Provide a chronic disease information system.
- 12       2. Provide a mechanism for patient follow-up.
- 13       3. Promote and assist hospital cancer registries.

14      4. Improve the quality of information gathered relating to the  
15 detection, diagnosis and treatment of patients with cancer, birth defects and  
16 other diseases included in the surveillance system.

17      5. Monitor the incidence patterns of diseases included in the  
18 surveillance system.

19      6. Pursuant to rules adopted by the director, establish procedures for  
20 reporting diseases included in the surveillance system.

21      7. Identify population subgroups at high risk for cancer, birth  
22 defects and other diseases included in the surveillance system.

23      8. Identify regions of this state that need intervention programs or  
24 epidemiological research, detection and prevention.

25      9. Establish a data management system to perform various studies,  
26 including epidemiological studies, and to provide biostatistic and  
27 epidemiologic information to the medical community relating to diseases in  
28 the surveillance system.

29      C. A person who provides a case report to the surveillance system or  
30 who uses case information from the system authorized pursuant to this section  
31 is not subject to civil liability with respect to providing the case report  
32 or accessing information in the system.

33      D. The department may authorize other persons and organizations to use  
34 surveillance data:

35       1. To study the sources and causes of cancer, birth defects and other  
36 chronic diseases.

37       2. To evaluate the cost, quality, efficacy and appropriateness of  
38 diagnostic, therapeutic, rehabilitative and preventive services and programs  
39 related to cancer, birth defects and other chronic diseases.

40      E. THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES AND THE ARIZONA EARLY  
41 INTERVENTION PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY MAY USE  
42 SURVEILLANCE DATA TO NOTIFY THE FAMILIES OF CHILDREN WITH BIRTH DEFECTS  
43 REGARDING SERVICES THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO THEM AND PROVIDE THESE FAMILIES WITH  
44 INFORMATION ABOUT ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE SERVICES TO THESE CHILDREN AND  
45 THEIR FAMILIES.

1        ~~E.~~ F. Information collected on individuals by the surveillance system  
2 that can identify an individual is confidential and may be used only pursuant  
3 to this section. A person who discloses confidential information in  
4 violation of this section is guilty of a class 3 misdemeanor.

5        Sec. 2. Section 36-699, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:  
6            36-699. Folic acid supplements: distribution; counseling;  
7            funding

8        A. The department shall establish a program to distribute folic acid  
9 supplements to women of childbearing age and to provide them with counseling  
10 and information regarding the proper use of the supplements.

11        B. **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL AUTHORIZE** local health departments ~~shall AND~~ OTHER ENTITIES TO distribute the supplements and provide the counseling and  
12 information services.

13        C. To distribute the supplements and provide the counseling as  
14 prescribed by this section, the department may use monies appropriated by the  
15 legislature for the federal women, infants and children food program.